

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION/PRIVACY ACTS SECTION  
COVER SHEET

**SUBJECT: JIMMY DURANTE**

**CROSS REFERENCE**

CONFIDENTIAL - THIS DOCUMENT IS NOT SUBJECT TO THE FOIA

### 200 RECENT WORKS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
AUG 23 1901

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Malone  
Mr. Posen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

~~URGENT 8-23-61 4-29 PM CAK~~

TO DIRECTOR FBI AND SACS DETROIT, SAN FRANCISCO AND WASHINGTON

FIELD /WA RELAY TO WFO/

FROM SAC CINCINNATI /92-382/ 3P

JAMES RIDDLE HOFFA, MISCELLANEOUS - INFORMATION CONCERNING.,  
ACCOUNTING AND FRAUD SECTION, OO.. DETROIT. RE SAN FRANCISCO  
TEL TO BUREAU, AUGUST TWENTYTWO, LAST. [REDACTED]

TEL TO BUREAU, AUGUST TWENTYTWO, LAST.

1110

**SHERATON GIBSON HOTEL, CINCINNATI,  
A RELIABLE SOURCE, RELATED FOLLOWING TODAY.**

CONTACTED BY JIMMY DURANTE, CALIF.

MOVIE PERSONALITY, EVENING AUGUST SIXTEEN, LAST, FROM SAN FRANCISCO  
DURANTE STATED HE HAD JUST BEEN ADVISED BY HOFFA THE TEAMSTERS  
GROUP, CINCINNATI, NEEDED GOOD PUBLICITY MAN. DURANTE ASKED  
IF HE WOULD TAKE JOB.

END PAGE ONE

8/14/61  
Zeller + ag, cewag  
o ag millea (14) C

cc Kiffen

63-5327

TWO COPIES WFO

B. APPROX. 1421  
JAFIB

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

IT EX-1076

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE  
67 AUG 30 1961 306

304

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

2 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

Deletions were made pursuant to the exemptions indicated below with no segregable material available for release to you.

Section 552

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 (b)(3)  


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(b)(7)(A)  
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 (b)(7)(C)  
 (b)(7)(D)  
 (b)(7)(E)  
 (b)(7)(F)  
 (b)(8)  
 (b)(9)

Section 552a

(d)(5)  
 (j)(2)  
 (k)(1)  
 (k)(2)  
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 (k)(4)  
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 (k)(6)  
 (k)(7)

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\_\_\_\_ Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  


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 For your information: \_\_\_\_\_

The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  


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63-5327-1318

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X NO DUPLICATION FEE X  
X FOR THIS PAGE X  
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# Hollywood Has Kind Words for Slain Gangster

By FLORABEL MUIR

HOLLYWOOD, June 23 (NY News)—It was a cocktail party given by the Eddie Cantor, and a goodly slice of Hollywood was there. The talk was mostly of Bugsy Siegel, gangland princeling who was assassinated Friday night for stepping on the toes of some other underworld royalist.

And most of the words spoken were kind, for Bugsy was a story book hoodlum to the romantically emotional adults who populate this community.

## Fascinated Women

For women especially, he had a strange fascination.

Cantor, who was throwing the party for Dave Rose at the Beverly Hills club, said, "you know, I liked that guy. He was very generous. Once when I was raising money in a charity drive at Las Vegas he came across with a sum that surprised me. He didn't do it for publicity, either, because no one knew how much he gave us."

Mannie Frank and songstress Vivian Blaine, his wife, confessed having been wary of Bugsy.

"He was a pleasant fellow, always ready for laughs and a great host, but I never wanted to do business with him," Mannie said.

## "Always a Gentleman"

Blonde Marilyn Maxwell chimed in. "He was always such a gentleman."

Actor Bob Mitchum, too, felt a bit awed. "I guess he asked for it," he remarked.

"He was a good Joe," said Sonny Tufts.

Helmut Dantine, movie hard guy, said, "I only saw him around a few times, but I never thought he was the kind of a gangster they'd shoot. He never seemed to be menacing anybody."

## Durante Liked Him

Cornel Wilde admitted liking him, too, "but I wouldn't have wanted my wife (Patricia Knight) to meet him," he added.

Jimmy Durante was fond of Bugsy with no reservations.

"I always got along swell with Ben," he said.

## Race Wire Service

## Linked to Murder

LOS ANGELES, June 23 (NY News)—The combined forces of law and order of Los Angeles and Beverly Hills today took up for investigation the possibility that Benny (Bugsy) Siegel paid with his life for his consuming interest in his racing wire service.

They saw in the competition between Bugsy's race wire business and that of the rival circuit operated by Chicago interests a situation in which Bugsy's refusal to consider a merger or a sell-out might have brought about the decision to put him out of the way with bullets last Friday night.

Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nesse \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

105  
V-2-8151-1  
NOT RECORDED  
75 JUN 27 1947

501  
WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD  
MORNING EDITION

DATE 6-24-47  
6 JUL 2 - 1947

Page 5

Memorandum

TO : Mr. Felt

DATE: July 6, 1965

FROM : H. L. Edwards

SUBJECT: FIFTY-NINTH ANNUAL MEETING  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ATTORNEYS GENERAL  
SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS; JUNE 25 - 30, 1965

Dodds  
Casper  
Callahan  
Conrad  
Felt  
Gale  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Gandy

7/6/65

At the State Dinner concluding the captioned meeting Wednesday night, June 30, 1965, Jimmy Durante put in a surprise unscheduled appearance and entertained the group of approximately 400 state Attorneys General, members of their staffs, wives and children. Texas Governor John B. Connally was the banquet speaker and Durante, accompanied by his partner, Eddie Jackson, and his pianist-arranger, George Finley, were introduced following the Governor's talk. Durante put on a typically fine performance lasting approximately one hour. Durante flew in from the coast Wednesday afternoon and flew back to the coast at 9:00 a. m. the following morning. He came solely as a result of a personal invitation from Louisiana's Attorney General, Jack P. F. Gremillion, and Gremillion's Chief Investigator, Frank Manning, whom Durante has known for approximately the past 25 years. I was told that Durante received nothing for this performance and even paid his own transportation expenses from and back to the coast.

I was introduced to Durante by Gremillion and Manning and when Durante learned of my connection with the Bureau, he immediately asked about the Director and Mr. Tolson and requested me to be sure to give them his very best regards. He said he always looks forward to seeing the Director on his trips to the coast. He asked about the Director's health and said that he still has "some years" on the Director and he hopes the Director will "go on forever."

Durante indicated he has been making some commercials lately for Kellogg cereals and also has been appearing in a movie or two in addition to his regular nightclub circuit. Both he and Jackson look fine.

ACTION: Information.

REC- 63

62-594-1-11-794

16 JUL 13 1965

HLE:mbk  
(3)

53 JUL 26 1965

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
MILITARY INFORMATION  
JULY 3 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. M. Clegg	✓
Mr. McLean	✓
Mr. Clegg	✓
Mr. Conrad	✓
Mr. DeLoach	✓
Mr. Felt	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Quinn	✓
Mr. Tamm	✓
Mr. Trotter	✓
Tele. Room	✓
Mr. Ingerson	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

URGENT 7-3-61 4-42AM TWC

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, LOS ANGELES /87-NEW/ 1P

UNSUB, THEFT OF NINETEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS IN FURS AND JEWELRY,  
SEVEN DASH TWO DASH SIXTYONE AND SEVEN DASH THREE DASH SIXTYONE,  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA. JIMMY F. DURANTE- VICTIM, ITSP, RESIDENCE  
OF VICTIM BURLARIZED LAST NIGHT. DISCOVERED EARLY AM THIS DATE. PRE-  
LIMINARY COUNT DISCLOSES APPROXIMATELY NINETEEN THOUSAND DOLLARS IN FURS  
AND JEWELRY MISSING. RESIDENCE WAS ENTERED BY PRYING REAR WINDOW.

INTERIOR OF HOUSE WAS RAMSAKED. NO SUSPECTS DEVELOPED. INVESTIGATION  
CONTINUING.

END ACK PLS

WA 7-44

10-52004

L 8 J

J. A. C. D. - CHIKIYU 250

7115 3 523 H.B

Ex. 101.

MCF-32

87-60418

S. J. M. S. 1961

REC-74

1962, 111, 282.

Mr. Tolson  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mohr  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Edwards  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Quinn  
Mr. Korman  
Mr. Tamm  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Tolson  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Bugliosi  
Miss Candy

# Rob Jimmy Durante of \$20,000

## Burglars Get Loot From Home

Loot totaling \$29,000 was taken in a burglary at the home of star entertainer Jimmy Durante, 1653 Rising Sun Road, Hollywood Hills, during his absence last night, police reported today.

The loot included cash, \$10; a Russian sable fur, \$4050; a diamond-platinum necklace, \$3200, and other jewels, and various personal property items. Durante discovered the loss after a television appearance, officers said.

"Whoever it was certainly had a lot of nerve," the star's wife said. "The lights to the house were on outside, we had lights on in the house and five cars were parked in our driveway and in front of the house. We all went to the studio to see Jimmy do a television show."

Pointing to their 2-year-old miniature poodle, apparently the only witness to the crime, Mrs. Durante said:

"I sure wish Pierre could talk. They must have given him some fresh meat or something to keep him quiet while they ransacked the house. He's usually very noisy and barks a lot."

UNSUB, THEFT OF \$20,000  
IN FURS AND JEWELRY,  
7-2-61 AND 7-3-61  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

JIMMY F. DURANTE - VICTIM

187-60418-A-  
NOT RECORDED  
176 JUL 13 1961



—Herald-Express Photo by Mill Martinez

**JIMMY DURANTE'S HOME RANSACKED BY BURGLARS**  
Comedian and Wife View Hall Closet Door Ripped Open by Robbers Who Took  
\$20,000 in Cash, Jewels and Furs

U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION  
JULY 3 1961

TELETYPE

Mr. Tolsen  
Mr. Belmont  
Mr. Mehr  
Mr. Callahan  
Mr. Conrad  
Mr. DeLoach  
Mr. Evans  
Mr. Maloy  
Mr. Rosen  
Mr. Sullivan  
Mr. Tavel  
Mr. Trotter  
Tele. Room  
Mr. Ingram  
Miss Gandy

URGENT

7-12-61

9-33 PM

KH

TO DIRECTOR, FBI

FROM SAC, LOS ANGELES 87-14461 2 P

CHANGED. CLIFFORD JOHN WATTS, CHARLES LESLIE PENDERGRAPH,  
ROSCOE CONKLIN PORTER. ITSP. REMYTEL JULY THREE LAST.

TITLE MARKED CHANGED TO REFLECT IDENTITY OF SUBJECTS. TITLE  
FORMERLY CARRIED UNKNOWN SUBJECT, THEFT OF NINETEEN  
THOUSAND IN FURS AND JEWELRY, JULY TWO DASH THREE SIXTY ONE,  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA, JIMMY F. DURANTE DASH VICTIM. ITSP.  
ACTING ON TIP FROM POLICE INFORMANT, LOS ANGELES POLICE  
OFFICERS TODAY ARRESTED CLIFFORD JOHN WATTS, TWENTY ONE  
PARK GROVE AVENUE, LOS ANGELES, LAPD NO. FOUR NINE SIX  
SIX ZERO W, FBI NO. ONE FOUR NINE FOUR ZERO THREE TWO,  
DESCRIBED AS MALE, NEGRO, BORN SEPTEMBER ONE NINETEEN  
NINETEEN, LOS ANGELES, FIVE FEET SIX INCHES, ONE THIRTY  
FOUR LBS. CHARLES LESLIE PENDERGRAPH, ONE FOUR THREE  
ZERO WEST THIRTY SIXTH PLACE, DESCRIBED AS MALE, NEGRO,  
BORN JANUARY TWENTY THIRTY FIVE, LOS ANGELES, FIVE FEET  
ELEVEN INCHES, ONE SEVENTY POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, BROWN  
END PAGE ONE

32 JUL 19 1961

cc

PAGE TWO

BROWN EYES. ROSCOE CONKLIN PORTER, TWO TWO THREE FIVE  
WEST TWENTY SIXTH PLACE, DESCRIBED MALE, NEGRO, BORN  
NOVEMBER TWENTY SEVEN TWENTY FIVE, FIVE FEET ELEVEN  
INCHES, ONE SIXTY POUNDS, BLACK HAIR, BROWN EYES. [REDACTED]

b7c

PARTIAL RECOVERY

OF PROPERTY TAKEN IN DURANTE BURGLARY RECOVERED WITH  
ARREST OF SUBJECTS. RECOVERED PROPERTY HAS BEEN POSITIVELY  
IDENTIFIED BY MR. AND MRS. DURANTE. [REDACTED]

b7c

LAPD WITHHOLDING

MAKING PRESS RELEASE UNTIL POSSIBLE RECOVERY OF ALL  
PROPERTY MADE. NO EVIDENCE OF ITSP AND NO FEDERAL  
VIOLATION DEVELOPED.

END AND ACK FOR 2 PLS

RECD 2 12-40 AM OK FBI WA RAM

TUO

July 26, 1957

RECORDED - 43-2-74168-6

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Jimmy:

Inspector McGuire has advised me of your thoughtfulness in calling before your departure from Washington yesterday. Your remembrance is certainly appreciated, and I am sorry I was not able to bid you farewell. You may be sure I am looking forward to exchanging pleasantries with you on the occasion of our next meeting.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

LJH:pwl

(3)

631  
MAIL ROOM  
64 AUG 6 1957

Mr. T  
Mr. A  
Mr. P  
Mr. I  
Mr. C  
Mr. M  
Mr. N  
Mr. O  
Mr. R  
Mr. S  
Mr. T  
Mr. U  
Mr. V  
Mr. W  
Mr. X  
Mr. Y  
Mr. Z  
Miss

June 14, 1960

Dear Carlo:

Thanks for sending me the write-up, and really one of the greatest men in the country today is J. Edgar Hoover. What a fine man -- it made me very happy to know that he liked my show. I must have got about eight copies of that from all over the country.

I know Mr. Hoover already has an autographed picture of me because I remember giving him one.

Thanks again and if you do ever meet with Mr. Hoover please give him my best.

My very best wishes to you and yours ---

Sincerely,

Jimmy Durante

REC-52

JUL 11 1960

Dear Mr. Hoover:

Thought you might like to see  
Mr. Jimmie and I are old friends and  
I thought I would surprise you with an  
autographed picture just in case you didn't

59 JUL 14 1960

Will be at room 1732, July 20  
10:30 A.M. as planned.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Durante

A  
December 6, 1963

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Jimmy:

Again I want to express my sincere thanks for your kindness in appearing during the ceremonies of the Brotherhood Award of the Washington Hebrew Congregation on December 4th. Enclosed is a photograph which was made at that time.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Edgar

Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Durante is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

REC-31

19 DEC 9 1963

MAILED 5

DEC - 6 1963

COMM-FBI

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Landy \_\_\_\_\_

RAG CJH:mab (7)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

December 6, 1963

Mr. Eddie Jackson  
c/o Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Mr. Jackson:

As you know, I am deeply appreciative  
of your kindness in contributing your outstanding  
talent to the Brotherhood Award ceremonies on  
December 4th, and I thought you might like to have  
the enclosed copies of two of the photographs made at  
that time.

Sincerely yours,

W. Edgar Hoover

MAILED 5  
12/6/63  
COMM-FBI

Enclosures (2)

NOTE: Mr. Jackson is part of Jimmy Durante's act. An appropriate note of appreciation was sent to him on 12/5/63 utilizing the above address.

Folson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Fusper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. R. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

68 DEC 13 1963

81 CJH:mab (7)  
MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

REC 14

December 5, 1963

AIRMAIL

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Jimmy:

I certainly enjoyed your superb performance last night at the ceremonies of the 1963 Brotherhood Award of the Washington Hebrew Congregation, and I deeply appreciate your coming here especially in view of the difficulties you encountered. Despite your long trip from the west coast including the traveling hardships involved, you did a masterful job which will always be remembered by all present.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

EDWARD

MAILED 10

DEC 5 1963

COMM-FBI

1 - Mr. Suttler

NOTE: Mr. Durante is on the Special Correspondents' List on a first-name basis.

DTP:ped

(6)

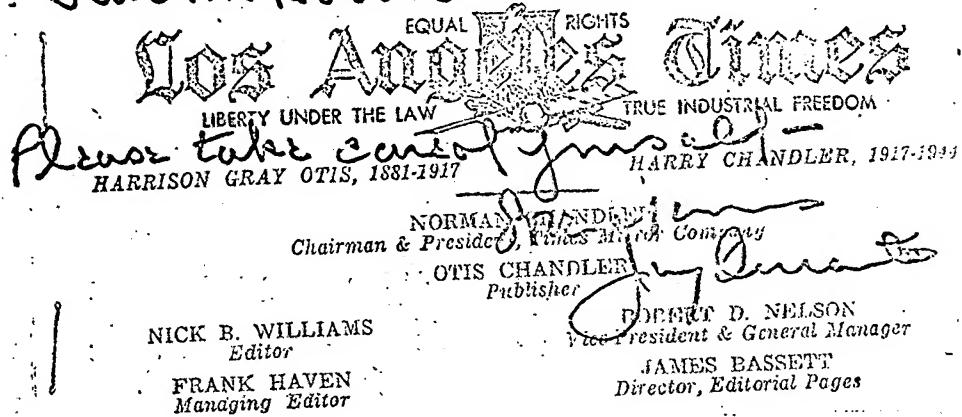
REC 27

19 JAN 24 1964

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Cullahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Dear Mr. Hoover - I love this writer -



ENCLOSURE

## TIMES EDITORIALS

### **Increased Power for the FBI?**

Precisely what role should be played by the Federal Bureau of Investigation in combatting subversive and other criminal activity has become a subject of renewed debate in recent weeks.

Controversial statements to the press by the FBI's long-time director, J. Edgar Hoover, and answers to these statements by Negro leaders and others have served to narrow the focus of attention to the FBI's activity in the civil rights area. Accompanying this have been a variety of suggestions—even demands—for changing the scope of FBI operations.

Such suggestions are not new, although the sources from which they come may seem unusual.

For years certain right wing elements have advocated enlarging the authority of the FBI to make it into a sort of national secret police force. Rightist proponents of this step claim that the kind of agency they have in mind is needed to combat "subversives," a word often so loosely used that it seems to mean anyone with whom they disagree.

Now, however, the push for changing the FBI's role is coming mainly from liberal and left wing elements.

What is being asked is a hyper-activist FBI that will concern itself not just with violations of federal laws, but with violations of laws not covered by federal statutes, laws which traditionally are within the jurisdiction of the various states. This would include certain protective—in effect bodyguard—functions for civil rights workers in the South.

The FBI is not, nor was it ever intended to be, either a national police force or a Gestapo. As it has developed under J. Edgar Hoover over the last 40 years the bureau has limited its role to investigative work and enforcement of specific federal laws—all laws, in fact, which have not been assigned by legislative enactment to other federal agencies, for instance, counterfeiting, which comes within the jurisdiction of the Treasury Department.

To enlarge the role of the FBI to the point where it can pre-empt state jurisdiction over even selective categories of criminal activity would constitute an exceedingly dangerous threat to individual liberties. Enormous police power would be concentrated in one federal agency. In unscrupulous hands this power could be misused with frightening consequences.

As an investigative and enforcement agency with specific responsibilities the FBI, as even its critics must admit, has been remarkably free from political and other special interests. Credit for this must go to Hoover, who insisted from the beginning that the bureau be divorced from politics. The director has also opposed attempts to broaden the FBI's area of jurisdiction.

This is all to the good.

Whatever motivations may now be prompting pressures to expand the bureau's jurisdiction, the fact remains that the potential dangers of concentrating increased police power in this arm of the federal government are too great to risk. The FBI, in its present form, does a good job. It shouldn't be tampered with.

62-74166-11

December 10, 1964

REC-21

EX-117

62-74168-11  
Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Jimmy:

It was indeed thoughtful of you to send the editorial entitled "Increased Power for the FEI?" to me, and I want to take this opportunity to thank you for the article as well as the kind comment you made in your note. Staunch support such as yours is always a great source of encouragement to me.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Edgar

MAILED 6
DEC 10 1964
COMM-FBI

1 - Los Angeles - Enclosure

NOTE: Mr. Durante is on the Special Correspondents' List.  
WAm:dl (5)

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Operator \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

211000Z

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : MR. FELT

FROM : H. L. EDWARDS

SUBJECT: JIMMY DURANTE

DATE: March 8, 1966

1. 1  
DeLoach  
Mabry  
Tolson  
Felt  
Gandy  
Reagan  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Tele. Room  
Holmes  
Grandy  
  
4/10/66

Last night Mrs. Edwards and I were dinner guests at the Rotunda Restaurant of Jimmy Durante, who is currently appearing at the Blue Room of the Shoreham Hotel (last night will be Thursday, 3/11/66). I met him some time ago through mutual friends.

Mr. Durante indicated that he plans to telephone the Director today (Tuesday, 3/8/66) and he also indicated that if his (Durante's) schedule will possibly permit he is going to try to take advantage of an opportunity to tour the Bureau. He said he had hoped to do this when he came to Washington on the occasion of the Director's receiving the Criss Award but his plan was late getting in and his entire schedule became upset.

Durante spoke frequently and in the highest terms concerning the Director and he asked about Mr. Tolson's health. He said he looks forward every year to seeing the Director. Durante mentioned that he became 73 on February 10, 1966, and "has a couple of years on the Director."

One of the chief topics of conversation of Durante was his recently adopted daughter, Cecelia, who is 4 1/2 years old. He showed us pictures of her in his hotel suite at the Shoreham.

Durante stated that Wednesday, 3/9/66, he has an appointment at the White House with President Johnson in connection with this year's Easter Seal campaign in connection with which Durante's photograph is appearing in magazines all over the country.

REC-82

While we were having dinner a great number of people came up to the table to ask for autographs and to tell him in an admiring way of various incidents in their lives wherein they remembered Durante favorably. He made a hit with everyone, seemed to be very glad to give the autographs and indicated that it is these friendly gestures on the part of people which "make life worth living."

ACTION:

None . . . informative.

1 - Mr. Wick

1 - Mr. DeLoach 1 - Miss Holmes

54 MAR 29 1966

CRIMES

April 12, 1968

BY LIAISON

Mrs. Mildred Stegall  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mrs. Stegall:

Jimmy Durante

Reference is made to your name check request concerning entertainers and athletic figures.

The central files of the FBI contain no pertinent derogatory information identifiable with [REDACTED]

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with the above individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

Pertain to third parties, and

therefore  
considered  
outside  
of your  
request.

Jimmy Durante

A copy of this communication has not been sent to the Attorney General.

ENCLOSURE

Sincerely yours,

REC-69

62-74168-16  
NOT RECORDED

46 APR 18 1968

Tele. \_\_\_\_\_  
DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
Mont \_\_\_\_\_  
Bishop \_\_\_\_\_  
Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
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Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
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Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
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Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Comdy \_\_\_\_\_

57 APR 19 1968

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

April 11, 1968

~~JIMMY DURANTE~~

*CL*  
Jimmy Durante, well-known motion picture and television star, has not been the subject of an investigation by the FBI. However, our files reveal the following information concerning him.

The December 23, 1943, issue of the "Daily Worker," a former east coast communist newspaper, reported that Jimmy Durante was among a group of entertainers who "readily agreed" to perform at a show sponsored by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, an organization designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The April 18, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker" reported that Jimmy Durante was one of a number of entertainers who performed at a birthday party for Paul Robeson, an individual who has been identified as a communist in sworn testimony before the House Committee on Un-American Activities. This birthday party was sponsored by the Council on African Affairs, an organization designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The October 3, 1947, issue of the "Times-Herald," Washington, D. C., reported that a cocktail party had been given by Eddie Cantor soon after the death of Benjamin "Rugsy" Siegel, notorious west coast hoodlum. According to this article, Jimmy Durante, "an old-time speakeasy player himself, saluted Siegel's memory kindly." 62-74168-2

The fingerprint files of the Identification Division of the FBI contain no arrest data identifiable with captioned individual based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

NOTE: Per request of Mrs. Mildred Stegall, White House Staff.  
JCF:mac (7)

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MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

ENCLOSURE

SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR  
ADD. INFORMATION.

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BY LIAISON

Dear Mr. Butterfield:  
Honorable Alexander P. Butterfield  
Deputy Assistant to the President  
The White House  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Butterfield:

Reference is made to your name check request concerning [REDACTED] and some other individuals.

Attached are separate memoranda concerning the following individuals:

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Durant

*pertains  
to third  
party and  
before  
considered outside  
scope of your  
request.*

This letter of transmittal may be declassified when the enclosures bearing a classification are removed.

Sincerely yours,

L. Patrick Gray, III  
Acting Director

Enclosures (4)

OF  
ENCLOSURE REC-28  
62-74168-17  
NOT RECORDED  
SI-111 176 SEP 5 1972

SECRET

DECLASSIFIED

BY

10-27-80 SP/CLK/JR

1 - Mr. Cleveland - Enclosures (sent direct)

EJK:mcb/mcb  
(5)

70 SEP 11 1972

MAIL ROOM

TELETYPE UNIT

ORIGINAL FILED IN 62-519-2

August 23, 1972

MR. AND MRS. ~~JIMMY~~ DURANTE

Captioned individuals, who you advised reside at 511 North Beverly Drive, Beverly Hills, California, have not been the subjects of an investigation by the FBI. However, our files reveal the following information concerning Mr. Durante.

The December 23, 1943, issue of the "Daily Worker," a former east coast communist newspaper, reported that Jimmy Durante was among a group of entertainers who "unanimously agreed" to perform at a show sponsored by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee, an organization designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The April 18, 1944, issue of the "Daily Worker," reported that Jimmy Durante was one of a number of entertainers who performed at a birthday party for Paul Robeson, an individual who has been identified as a communist in sworn testimony before the House Committee on Internal Security. This birthday party was sponsored by the Council on African Affairs, an organization designated pursuant to Executive Order 10450.

The October 3, 1947, issue of the "Times-Herald," Washington, D. C., reported that a cocktail party had been given by Eddie Cantor soon after the death of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, notorious west coast hoodlum. According to this article, Jimmy Durante, "an old-time speakeasy player himself, saluted Siegel's memory kindly." (62-74168-2)

b7D

b7D

NOTE: Per request of Alexander P. Butterfield, Deputy Assistant to the President.

092 AES:mcb (5)

62-74168-11/29

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onder \_\_\_\_\_  
wars \_\_\_\_\_  
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etc. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
r. Kinley \_\_\_\_\_  
r. Armstrong \_\_\_\_\_  
r. Herwig \_\_\_\_\_  
r. Neenan \_\_\_\_\_

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

Mr. and Mrs. Jimmy Durante

The central files of the FBI, including the files of the Identification Division, contain no additional pertinent information concerning captioned individuals based upon background information submitted in connection with this name check request.

September 26, 1972

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
Saint John's Hospital  
1328 22nd Street  
Santa Monica, California 90404

Dear Mr. Durante:

Your many friends in the FBI were sorry to learn it was necessary for you to enter the hospital for a rest and we hope this note will find you feeling much better. We did want you to know that our thoughts are with you and we wish you a speedy recovery from your fatigue.

Sincerely,

Pat Gray ST-106

5 SEP 27 1972

1 - Los Angeles

NOTE: Mr. Durante has been a good friend to the Bureau over the years furnishing entertainment at various Bureau functions. Address for hospital per Zip Code Book.

awt:la (4)

20 SEP 29 1972

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

BUCA

DURANTE 9-25  
SANTA MONICA, CALIF. (UPI) -- JIMMY DURANTE HAS BEEN HOSPITALIZED  
FOR REST. DR. JOHN EAGAN, HIS PERSONAL PHYSICIAN, REPORTED MONDAY  
THE 75-YEAR-OLD ENTERTAINER ENTERED ST. JOHN'S HOSPITAL HERE  
SATURDAY. EAGAN SAID DURANTE WAS SUFFERING FROM FATIGUE FOLLOWING  
A VEGAS NIGHTCLUB APPEARANCE AND SEVERAL TELEVISION APPEARANCES.  
HOWEVER, THE PHYSICIAN SAID DURANTE WAS "DOING FINE." IT WAS  
NOT KNOWN HOW LONG THE VETERAN COMEDIAN WOULD BE IN THE HOSPITAL.

UPI 09-25-65:18 PED

to  
1965-12-12  
a-26-72  
aut-66

GRANT

62-74168-18  
ENCLOSURE

set

Mrs. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210

November 24, 1972

Mr. L. Patrick Gray, III  
Acting Director  
FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
United States Department of Justice  
Washington, D.C.

Dear Mr. Gray:

Thank you so much for the lovely note and good wishes you sent Jimmy.

Jimmy is home recuperating and doing very well. With the many good wishes of friends like you I am sure it won't be long before he is up and around again.

Thank you for thinking of him.

Sincerely,

*Marge Durante*  
(MRS.) JIMMY DURANTE

MLD/lrt

S. NOV 2 1972

54 DEC 5 1972

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XXXXXX  
XXXXXX

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

1 Page(s) withheld entirely at this location in the file. One or more of the following statements, where indicated, explain this deletion.

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Information pertained only to a third party with no reference to you or the subject of your request.

Information pertained only to a third party. Your name is listed in the title only.

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       Page(s) referred for consultation to the following government agency(ies); \_\_\_\_\_ as the information originated with them. You will be advised of availability upon return of the material to the FBI.

       Page(s) withheld for the following reason(s):  
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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:

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1947 SURVEY

LAND SURVEY  
FIELD DIVISION

December 17, 1947

162-1247-29 42

End

232

~~Refers to this portion; therefore is considered  
outside the scope of your request.~~

13\*  
149, 152, 161, 163, 166  
29  
111  
32\*, 33, 41

30\*, 39, 48

96

174

130

98

167

49, 81, 95

131

14\*

154

186

19\*

135

137

14\*

6, 56

98

132

32

100

3, 23\*

137  
182, 186  
121

149, 160, 161, 162

14\*

106

183

132

\* - Denotes principal information

Colonial Inn

United States Highway No. 1  
Hallandale, Florida

Plans are being made for an elaborate floorshow and nightclub. XAVIER CUGAT's orchestra has been booked, and negotiations are being carried on for CARMEN MIRANDA, VELIZ and YOLANDA, JIMMY DURANTE, and JACK BENNY for appearances at this spot.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
 FROM : SAC, CHICAGO (94-519) (Sub 10)

DATE: February 15, 1954

SUBJECT: JOHN ERMINIO CAPONE, was. James Martin,  
 Jack Martin, John Martin, Arthur  
 Colby, Phil Cohen, Jack Capone, Miami  
 Capone, Mimi Capone  
 GTF (TOP HOODLUM COVERAGE)

*Pertains to third party, therefore considered outside the scope of your request.*  
 Re SAC Letter No. 53-58 dated August 25, 1953.

S 2-1

S 7-1

S 2-1

S 7-1

JW

X

By letter dated October 15, 1952, the Los Angeles Division advised that [REDACTED] informed that JOHN ERMINIO CAPONE had visited JIMMY DURANTE and GEORGE RAFT a few days earlier than the date of the letter.

Cain

Cain

*Pertains to third party and therefore, considered outside the scope of your request.*

FWM: tmt  
 RECORDED - 90

INDEXED - 80

FEB 15 1954

6000 m²  $\times$  1000 m² = 6000000 m²

DEC 27 1946

## MULTI-TYPE

FBI SALT LAKE CITY

12-27-46

5-05 PM

11C

DIRECTOR AND SACS LOS ANGELES AND MIAMI URGENT

DIRECTOR: ① BENJAMIN "BUGS" SIEGEL, MISCELLANEOUS INFO. CONCERNING, CRIME SURVEY.

DEVELOPMENTS FOR WEEK ENDING TWENTYSEVENTH INSTANT. FLAMINGO HOTEL

CASINO, BARS AND RESTAURANT FORMALLY OPENED NIGHT OF TWENTYSIXTH

INSTANT WITH ENTERTAINMENT BY XAVIER CUGAT'S ORCHESTRA AND JIMMY

DURANTE:

DURANTE.

1000 ft. Salt water  
30-46  
H. S.

100

10/25/79 50-5 ziglab

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

DEC 21 1968

U.S. MAIL

1 FBI-SAC, LOS ANGELES, CALIFORNIA  
2 DIRECTOR AND SACS, LOS ANGELES, BIRMINGHAM, BOSTON, CHICAGO, CLEVELAND,  
3 BENJAMIN FUG, SPECIAL AGENT IN CHARGE, CONCESSIONS, LOS ANGELES

60 JAN 15 1969

STATE  
DEPARTMENT  
OF DEFENSE  
SERVICES FOR SERVICES

F B I

Date: 7/8/63

Transmit the following in

(Type in plain text or code)

Via AIRTEL

AIR MAIL.

**(Priority or Method of Mailing)**

**TO: DIRECTOR, FBI**  
**FROM: SAC, CHICAGO (92-350-SUBU)**  
**SUBJECT: ACTIVITIES OF TOP HOODLUMS  
CHICAGO DIVISION**

CHICAGO DIVISION "JUNE"  
Pertains to third parties and therefore, considered on

REF-38

Cartell 66  
7-10-63  
262 pages

3 - Bureau (RM) 102/108  
1 - Chicago  
MER: rmh (4) 7/10/65 10-28-80  
C# 92,416

REC-38

SP 185K / 98cm (r) 9-9-1305

Approved: J. R. L.  
Special Agent in Charge

Sent \_\_\_\_\_ M

10 MIL 50705  
Per

500  
SPEC. CH.

CG 92-350-SUB U

belong to third parties  
and therefore I considered  
outside the scope of  
your request.

JAYNE MANSFIELD has been signed up for a summer run and that they are presently hoping to get JIMMY DURANTE to precede her for two weeks. Both individuals feel that if DURANTE can be contracted for that they will be assured of having a financial success.

XXXXXX  
XXXXXX  
XXXXXXFEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
FOIPA DELETED PAGE INFORMATION SHEET

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For your information: \_\_\_\_\_  
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The following number is to be used for reference regarding these pages:  
62-75147-26-430, Page 1

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X FOR THIS PAGE X  
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

MONTHLY SUMMARY OF TRENDS AND DEVELOPMENTS

DATE: May, 1947.

VOL. 1 #2

<u>TABLE OF CONTENTS</u>	<u>Page</u>
The Communist Front . . . . .	1.
Communists in the Government. . . . .	7.
Communist Activity in Labor Unions, . . .	8.
The Legion vs. Communism. . . . .	11.
Other Communist Activities, the "Fronts" and Miscellaneous. . . . .	11.
Communism Abroad. . . . .	15.
The Field . . . . .	16.
Native Fascists and Hate Groups . . . .	18.
World Government Organizations. . . . .	19.

SOURCE: THE NATIONAL AMERICANISM COMMISSION  
SUB-COMMITTEE ON SUBVERSIVE ACTIVITIES  
THE AMERICAN LEGION  
NATIONAL HEADQUARTERS  
INDIANAPOLIS 6 INDIANA

2 ENCL

File 14-1-17996  
INDEXED 125

60 MAY 11 1949

\* \* \* \*

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\* \* \* \*

ful eye on all the latest twists and shifts in the Communist Party line, reports an incredible racket being carried on in this country without benefit of F.B.I. attention or prosecution. "Individuals with relatives in Soviet-dominated police states are being solicited for contributions (in Slav-American communities) to pro-Communist causes and for declarations in support for the unrepresentative governments of these countries. There are broad hints that their relatives will suffer if the solicitations are disregarded." The newspaper goes on to comment that if our present laws against blackmail and extortion are not ample to cover this sort of intimidation they should be strengthened and enforced.

AMERICAN YOUTH for DEMOCRACY. The excellent Congressional pamphlet released by the House Un-American Activities Committee on this organization and the nation-wide campaign of exposure with the resultant banning of this C.P. subsidiary from several college campuses has needled the Communists into caustic comment in their press. PEOPLES WORLD, Chicago STAR, and numerous other C.P. organs are devoting an increasing amount of space to defense of A.Y.D. as a "bona fide, democratic youth organization."

The Veterans Session of Hunter College, New York, adopted a rather unique attitude and policy. A.Y.D. was chartered by Hunter over two years ago. Instead of banning this renamed youth section of the C.P., Hunter's faculty posted public notices to all students warning them that A.Y.D. "is inspired and dominated by Communists and devoted to the spread of Communism and to recruitment of members for the Communist Party from among the students of American colleges."

Quick Death of a Front. Another Communist front died practically aborning due to the alertness of a New York newspaperman, Pulitzer prize-winner Fred WOLTMAN of the New York World-Telegram. The AMERICAN SOCIETY FOR CULTURAL RELATIONS WITH ITALY was launched with a great deal of fanfare and a long list of prominent spon-

sors: The Governor of Rhode Island, John RASTORE; Peter GRIMM, President of the N. Y. State Chamber of Commerce; Fannie HURST; Jan KIEPURA; Jimmy (Schnozzle) DURANTE and many others. None of these celebrities had ever lent their names to C.P. fronts. Tucked away, however, in the fine print were such hardy old perennials as Max YERGAN, Canada LEE, Eugene P. CONNOLLY, Rockwell KENT, and Frederick Vanderbilt FIELD, all of non-Italian origin but sharing a mutual penchant for sponsoring indubitable C.P. fronts.

WOLTMAN established that the society's initial financing came from another non-Italian, Irving POTASH, self-admitted Communist and official of the Furriers Union. The society's birth announcement rated two column headlines in the Communist Italian language paper L'UNITA DEL POPOLO. WOLTMAN than developed the fact that the non-Communist respectables who had lent their names to the project knew little or nothing about its objectives, inspiration, or actual directing control. All or most of them quickly withdrew their names and resigned. Miss HURST told the press: "I object terribly to finding myself affiliated with political groups that have not put all their cards on the table. I stepped out today. In the future I intend to watch my step."

Mr. GRIMM of the N. Y. State Chamber of Commerce stated that he had agreed to allow the society the use of his name as a sponsor at the request of a casual business acquaintance. He too dropped A.S.C.R.I. like a hot potato with the comment: "This is the first time I have ever been landed." The public relations company handling this account quickly withdrew also when the society's real purpose became apparent. It had been forbidden to contact any liberal, labor, or civic leaders known to be anti-Communist. WOLTMAN's journalistic enterprise is an example of what any vigilant newspaperman, Legionnaire, clergyman, or other public-spirited citizen can likewise do in his own community in exposing such Communist frauds.

Pertains to third party  
therefore is considered  
outside the scope of  
your request

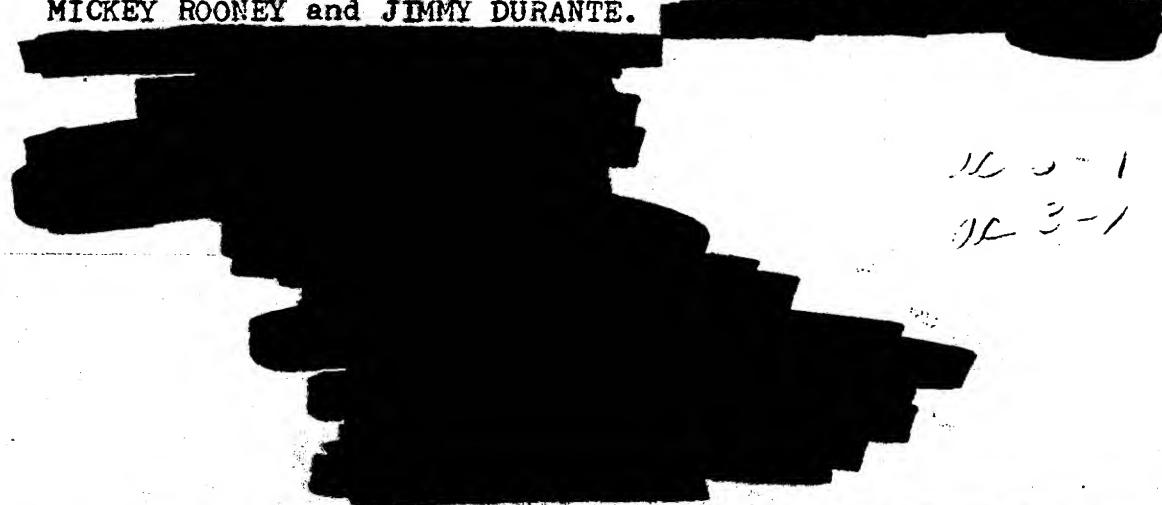
1/15/53

1-26-3  
5-10 Los Angeles

(1)  
2  
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4



She is personally acquainted with GEORGE RAFT  
MICKEY ROONEY and JIMMY DURANTE.



AC 3-1  
DC 3-1



SEARCHED 143

66-18643-4  
MAR 30 1953  
68

Nelson <sup>SP 108</sup>

89 INDEXED

EX-12

J. W. Hockman

1-5-53

Pertains to third  
party and therefore  
considered outside  
the scope of your  
request.

Sup/s

b7D  
had been in contact with JIMMY DURANTE and GEORGE KRAFT, movie actors, in regard to the whereabouts of CAPONE. Both stated that CAPONE was not in Los Angeles. DURANTE told informant that he had closed a show within the past two weeks at the Copa City Club owned by CAPONE in Miami, Florida, and that CAPONE was there when he left. Both advised the informant that when CAPONE came to Los Angeles he always contacted them. [REDACTED] was given the above information on March 10, 1953. b7C

(g) Recommendation:

Pertains to third  
party and therefore  
considered outside  
the scope of your  
request.

AM  
U.S. GOVERNMENT  
1946  
1946

DEC 20 1946

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DIRECTOR

URGENT

BENJAMIN QUOTE BUGS UNQUOTE SIEGEL, INFO CONCERNING, MISC., CRIME  
SURVEY. REBUREAU TEL DEC ELEVEN LAST. SIEGEL IN LA DEC. EIGHTEEN TO  
SEE JIMMY DURANTE RE ~~LEAD~~ LATTERS APPEARANCE IN FLOOR SHOW AT ~~OPENING~~ OF FLAMINGO HOTEL, LAS VEGAS, DEC TWENTYSIX. ~~LANA TURNER~~.  
JIMMY DURANTE, & ~~FRANK~~ SINATRA, AMONG OTHER CELEBRITIES BELIEVED TO BE  
ATTENDING FLAMINGO OPENING.

Refers to third party and therefore is considered  
outside the scope of your request.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Nichols

DATE: October 27, 1956

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: VINCENT E. FLAHERTY'S  
COLUMN ON MOVIES  
LOS ANGELES EXAMINER  
OCTOBER 23, 1956BACKGROUND:

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
 Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mason \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
 Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
 Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

✓  
 Information pertains to a  
 third party and therefore  
 is considered outside the  
 scope of your request.

On October 22, 1956, Flaherty had a column in the Los Angeles Examiner entitled "Delinquency Causes Told by FBI Chief." This discussed the juvenile problem at great length, referred to the interview with the Director and stated that Mr. Hoover enumerated three major causes of juvenile crime as lack of religious training, loss of respect for parents and boredom. A copy of this column is attached.

On the following day, October 23, there was a follow-up column captioned "Hoover Hits Crime Trend in Movies." This article deals at length with the Director's views on motion pictures and juvenile delinquency. A copy of the column is attached and there follows a detailed analysis of this column consisting of summaries on the pictures and individuals mentioned, etc.

Enclosures

MAJ:rcw

(7) NOV 13 1956

INDEXED - 94

RECORDED - 94

CLERK

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols

October 27, 1956

JIMMY DURANTE:

[REDACTED]

b1  
b2

The "Daily Worker," east coast communist newspaper, issue dated December 23, 1943, reported that Jimmy Durante was among a group of entertainers who "readily agreed to perform" at the "Fund for Freedom" show which was sponsored by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and which was scheduled for the Imperial Theater, New York City, on December 26, 1943. (100-7061-A)

The Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee was cited as a communist organization by the Attorney General.

The "Daily Worker" issue dated April 18, 1944, reported that Jimmy Durante was among a group of entertainers who performed at the Paul Robeson Birthday Party held at the 17th Regiment Armory, New York City, on April 16, 1944. According to this article, the Birthday Party was sponsored by the Council on African Affairs. (100-12304-A)

The Council on African Affairs was cited as a communist organization by the Attorney General.

The "New York World Telegram" issue dated April 14, 1944, carried an article captioned "New Front Snags Non-Red Names with Party-Liners." This article, under the by-line of Frederick Woltman, reported the formation of a new organization, the American Society for Cultural Relations with Italy. According to Woltman, this organization was "overwhelmingly top heavy with communists." The article pointed out that "the society has managed to snag a respectable array of conservatives and known communist liberals as sponsors." Included in the latter group was the name of Jimmy Durante. (105-9929-4)

The Washington "Times-Herald" issue dated October 3, 1947, in a column captioned "Fair Enough" under the by-line of Westbrook Pegler, reported that a cocktail party had been given by Eddie Cantor soon after the death of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, notorious west coast hoodlum. According to Pegler, Jimmy Durante, "an old-time speakeasy player himself, saluted Siegel's memory kindly." (62-81518-A)

Information pertains to a  
third party and therefore, is  
considered outside the scope

Memorandum to Mr. Nichols *of your request* October 27, 1956

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED] b7D

[REDACTED]

Files further reflect that correspondence between Durante and  
the Director is on a first name basis. (62-74168)

b7D

[REDACTED]

(Copy from teletype from  
SAC, Los Angeles)

## "HOOVER HITS CRIME TREND IN MOVIES"

By Vincent X. Flaherty - Los Angeles Examiner, October 23, 1956.

"Last week while visiting J. Edgar Hoover in his Washington headquarters, the Director of the Federal Bureau of Investigation expressed very real concern over the modern trend in motion pictures.

"He was discussing the causes and (hopefully) the cures of juvenile delinquency. Mr. Hoover was vividly dismayed over some of the films now fouling the atmosphere. He spoke specifically of movies featuring juvenile violence and degeneracy.

"The Chief of the G-men firmly believes there are hundreds of wonderful stories that can be told on the screen which could be beneficial, rather than destructive. He is convinced a movie can offer the ultimate in entertainment while being spiritually uplifting and educational.

"'Why educate youngsters in the field of perversion, brutality and indecency,' he asked.

"Among recent pictures he referred to one in which a little girl murders three people. It is billed as 'The Big Shocker' and is 'recommended for adults only.'

### Youthful Curiosity

"'When they advertise a movie for adults only they know what they are doing,' he said. 'It arouses the curiosity of the youngsters and they make a point of going to see something they think they shoudn't see.'

"He recalled a movie of some years back in which Jesse James, a murderer, thief and scoundrel, was portrayed heroically.

"'Jesse James was a terrible creature,' he said. 'He broke his mother's heart. Yet, youngsters were led to believe he was a hero.'

"I didn't want to interrupt, else I would have told Mr. Hoover Twentieth Century is now doing a re-make of the Jesse James story, starring Robert Wagner and Jeffrey Hunter. The new picture portrays James in his true light.

ENCLOSURE 2

62-26225-1303

"Many years ago Hoover had a talk with the late Will Hays, then Czar of the movies. At that time movies glorified gangsters as courageous figures.

"When Hoover unofficially protested, Hays brought about a change. 'For a long while,' said Hoover, 'they proceeded to glorify law enforcement instead of gangsters. But now motion pictures have returned to where they were years ago.'

"Hoover mentioned a recent life story, a perfumed version, of a figure who was dishonorably discharged from the Army during World War II. This individual had a background of robberies and all else. However, the movie gave youngsters the impression it was all right to be like this Sterling character.

"Instead of making the life story of a bad fellow like that,' said Hoover, 'why couldn't they have picked out some exemplary figure the youngsters could genuinely respect and admire.'

"The Director of the FBI also pointed to television for its shortcomings in feeding the juvenile imagination a steady and insidious diet of crime.

"At random Hoover named a few of his favorites of the entertainment world, Jimmy Durante, Bob Hope, Lucy and Desi, Abbott and Costello, Jack Benny, Phil Silvers, Bing Crosby and a few others.

#### Always Good Taste

"You never see these people entering into anything vulgar or suggestive,' he said. 'Why can't all of the entertainers be like them.'

"Hoover thinks one of the finest motion pictures ever made was Bing Crosby's 'Going My Way.'

"That one picture proves they don't have to indulge in revolting things to make a great picture,' said Hoover.

"Hoover believes the stars of the entertainment world, as well as those who produce and write, have a job to do in the battle against the soaring juvenile crime problem. He includes stars of the sports world as well.

"As I have said,' he continued, 'the average boy must have a virile hero. If the father cannot be the hero, then the boy might want to be like Jesse James instead of a Joe DiMaggio.'

"The stars of the movies, television or sports should be made to keep in mind they have a definite duty to perform,' he said. 'They should always understand they set examples for millions of youngsters. Therefore it is part of their jobs to make sure their public lives are above reproach.

"If a youngster reads about one of his heroes doing something disgraceful, Hoover said, then he is apt to think it is all right for him to do the same thing.'

#### Bewildering World

"Mr. Hoover quickly concedes youngsters of today are living in a different and somewhat more bewildering world than that which existed twenty, thirty or forty years ago. If they don't get proper guidance from their parents, he says, then all they have to go by is what they hear and see.

"Religion must be made attractive to youngsters,' he said. 'I listen to some of these hum-drum Sunday sermons on radio and television and they are enough to make children turn to another channel.

"It is a shame all preachers do not have the ability to hold their audiences. He went on. Bishop Sheen does a great job. So does Dr. Norman Vincent Peale. So did the late Rabbi Joseph Liebman. These three great men have performed wonderful jobs. Unfortunately, other fine men do not have the natural talent to (preach) as forcefully.'

"Mr. Hoover is not an Elvis Presley admirer.

"I saw him once,' he said. 'I have never seen such obscene contortions as this boy puts on. It just shouldn't be permitted - yet, he is the idol of the teenagers. When an entertainer appeals to the evil, the baser instincts, he added, then he no longer is an entertainer. Why can't they all pattern themselves after Jimmy Durante,' Mr. Hoover asked, in conclusion. 'He has proved for years an entertainer doesn't have to resort to smut and vulgarity. Jimmy's private life always has been wonderful. I know Jimmy personally. There is a really fine man.'"

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

# Memorandum

TO : Mr. Wick

DATE: 3-10-66

FROM : M. A. Jones

SUBJECT: JAMES FRANCIS DURANTE  
BETTER KNOWN AS JIMMY DURANTE  
SPECIAL TOUR

Today Jimmy Durante was given a very special tour by Inspector Suttler. He was taken through the Laboratory, the Range and the First Floor Exhibit Rooms.

After this he met the Director, had photographs made with him, then was taken back to the Shoreham in the Director's car.

He talked about Mr. Hoover a great deal and said he was amazed at the tremendous crime laboratory Mr. Hoover had built. He is truly an ardent admirer of the Director.

### RECOMMENDATION:

For information.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Wick
- 1 - Miss Gandy
- 1 - Miss Holmes

BMS:amb  
(5)

REC. 23

MCT-15

60-1076  
MAR 15 1966

OPTIONAL FORM NO. 10  
MAY 1962 EDITION  
GSA GEN. REG. NO. 27

REMS. MSG. UNIT

REC-23

March 11, 1966

7416-13 AIRMAIL

62 - EX-23

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210

Dear Jimmy:

It was certainly good to see you in my office yesterday afternoon and I do hope you found your tour of our facilities enjoyable.

Enclosed is a copy of the photograph made during your visit which I thought you might like to have as a memento of the occasion.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Edgar

Enclosure

1 - Los Angeles - Enclosure

Johnson \_\_\_\_\_  
Looch \_\_\_\_\_  
Mahr \_\_\_\_\_  
Mark \_\_\_\_\_  
Temper \_\_\_\_\_  
Lilahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Towrod \_\_\_\_\_  
Alt \_\_\_\_\_  
He \_\_\_\_\_  
Losen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Lavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Foster \_\_\_\_\_  
Sgt. Recm \_\_\_\_\_  
James \_\_\_\_\_  
Andy \_\_\_\_\_

GTQ:smg

(6)

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

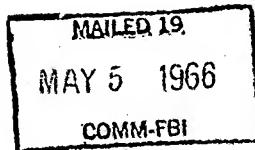
May 5, 1966

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210

Dear Jimmy:

I am enclosing a copy of the May, 1966, issue of "The Investigator," the employee publication of the FBI, which I thought you might enjoy seeing. We were indeed pleased to include on page 26 the photograph which was taken in my office during your visit to FBI Headquarters.

Sincerely,  
Edgar



Enclosure

1 - Los Angeles

NOTE: Address and salutation per Director's letter dated 3/11/66.

AJW:ilm

(6)

Isen \_\_\_\_\_  
Loach \_\_\_\_\_  
Micht \_\_\_\_\_  
Rock \_\_\_\_\_  
Saper \_\_\_\_\_  
Tallahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotard \_\_\_\_\_  
Slt \_\_\_\_\_  
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de. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

REC-18

53 MAY 17 1966

8 MAY 6 1966

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

February 2, 1967

AIRMAIL

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California 90210

Dear Jimmy:

Hearty congratulations on your receiving the 1966 Club of Champions Award last night from the Catholic Youth Organization.

The inspiration you have given untold millions as a living example of fortitude, courage and humility during your brilliant career certainly merits recognition, and it is indeed fitting that you should be awarded this Gold Medal.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Edgar

MAILED 19  
FEB 2 1967  
COMM-FBI

REC'D-READING ROOM

77  
B  
1159 AM 11 FEB 2 1967

1 - New York  
Reurtelcall 2-2-67  
1 - Los Angeles

NOTE: Mr. Durante is on the Special Correspondents' List and is known to the Director on a first-name basis. SAC Malone telephonically advised the Bureau this morning that Mr. Durante had received the 1966 Club of Champions Award of the CYO. The Director received the 1945 Champions Award of the CYO on 1-8-46.

REC 43

19 FEB 3 1967

GEM:mel (6)

58 FEB 10 1967

MAIL ROOM  TELETYPE UNIT

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rel. \_\_\_\_\_  
letter \_\_\_\_\_  
r. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
res. \_\_\_\_\_  
dy \_\_\_\_\_

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 17 1943

RECORDED

WB58(FIVE) 63

HD HOLLYWOOD CALIF NOV 17 1943 1253P

J EDGAR FED BUR OF INVESTIGATION

WASHN DC

WOULD LIKE TO MENTION YOUR NAME IN CONNECTION WITH DECTECTIVE  
~~EXPERIMENT~~ COMEDY ~~STORY~~ ROUTINE I AM DOING ON ~~CAMEL~~ BROADCAST CBS FRIDAY  
NIGHT. THE JOKES ARE ALL ON ME AND THERE IS NO MENTION OF FBI OR  
GOVERNMENT ACTIVITIES BUT UNDERSTAND WE HAVE TO HAVE YOUR  
PERMISSION. WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR WIRING ME OKAY COLLECT CARE  
OF WILLIAM ESTY 1537 VINE STREET HOLLYWOOD CALIFORNIA. MANY  
THANKS.

JIMMY DURANTE

430

FB 1537

Reb  
by  
M. J. D.

RECORDED  
11/17/43

CT:DSS

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE

NOVEMBER 17, 1943

To: COMMUNICATIONS SECTION.

Transmit the following message to:

62-74168 - 1

MR. JIMMY DURANTE  
c/o WILLIAM ESTY  
1537 VINE STREET  
HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

RECORDED

REPLYING YOUR TELEGRAM ENTIRELY SATISFACTORY FOR YOU TO  
USE MY NAME IN FRIDAY'S BROADCAST. SINCERELY

J. EDGAR HOOVER

~~COPIES DESTROYED~~  
68 NOV 6 1943

Mr. Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. E. A. Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Coffey \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Acers \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Mumford \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Starke \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

DE-INDEXED  
DATE: 12/17/58  
36

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

NOV 17 1943

WESTERN UNION

SENT VIA NOV 17 1943

50¢ per word

January 16, 1953

JIMMY DURANTE

5  
The "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, issue dated December 23, 1943, reported that Jimmy Durante was among a group of entertainers who "readily agreed to perform" at the "Fund for Freedom" show which was sponsored by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and which was scheduled for the Imperial Theater, New York City, on December 26, 1943. (100-7061-A)

3  
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The Washington "Times-Herald" issue dated October 3, 1947, in a column captioned "Fair Enough" under the by-line of Westbrook Pegler, reported that a cocktail party had been given by Eddie Cantor soon after the death of Benjamin "Bugsy" Siegel, notorious west coast hoodlum. According to Pegler, Jimmy Durante, "an old-time speakeasy player himself, saluted Siegel's memory kindly." (62-81518-A)

REF - 101-1000000

J. J. DAUNT:jmr

INDEXED - 101-1000000  
FILED - 101-1000000

78 MAR 18 1953

April 22, 1953

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
Hotel Astor  
New York, New York

Dear Jimmy:

I always enjoy any program where you are featured. Your performance at the Banshees Luncheon yesterday was tops, even if you did have to sport an "old cigar." The next time we will try to do better.

I have heard so many comments about your performance and enjoyed it so much personally that I did want to drop you this personal note to tell you how much your efforts were appreciated, along with those of your oldtime partner, Eddie Jackson.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

*Edgar*

LBN:hmc

*Ron*  
RECORDED-64  
INDEXED-64

762-1416-1

APR 24 1953

MAILED 3

79 MAY 5 - 105 COMM-FBI

May 11, 1954

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
Hotel Astor  
New York, New York

Dear Jimmy:

I want you to be sure and notice page 22 of the enclosed copy of "The Investigator," which is our employees' magazine. It shows you and Eddie entertaining our folks in Los Angeles and from your expressions I would hazard a guess that you enjoyed the party as much as they.

I hope you will appreciate the fact that we let you share the page with one of the prettier "Mrs. Washington" contestants.

With every good wish,

Sincerely,

Edgar

Enclosure

RECORDED-39

The Investigator May, 1954

EX-107

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Beardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Winterrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

NOTE: Bufiles reflect cordial correspondence with Jimmy. Address and salutation per previous correspondence. No address is available for Jimmy's partner and it is not deemed necessary to send Jackson a copy of "The Investigator."

HPL:dep

COMM - FBI  
MAY 13 1954  
MAILED 31

RECEIVED READING ROOM  
F B I  
May 11

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
U. S. DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

OCT 29 1956

WESTERN UNION

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Mrs. Tolson
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Nease
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Clegg
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Belmont
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Mohr
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Parsons
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Rosen
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Tamm
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Turner
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Tracy
<input type="checkbox"/>	Tele. Room
<input type="checkbox"/>	Mr. Holloman
<input type="checkbox"/>	Miss Gandy

BI WU WOOS NL PD

TDL BEVERLY HILLS CALIF OCT 28

EDGAR J HOOVER

THANKS A MILLION I WANT YOU TO KNOW I APPREIATE YOUR  
WONDERFUL AND LOVELY THOUGHTS MY VERY BEST WISHES TO  
YOU AND YOURS SINCERELY

JIMMY DURANTE

RECORDED : 83

718A OCT 29.

16 OCT 31 1956

*Referred to by [unclear]*

*MTD 10/30/56  
RWB 10/30/56*

October 30, 1956

RECORDED - 83

Mr. Jimmy Durante  
511 North Beverly Drive  
Beverly Hills, California

Dear Jimmy:

Thank you very much for your kind telegram  
of October 28, 1956.

I was pleased to be able to say the things I  
did about you in my recent interview with Vincent  
Flaherty.

With kind personal regards,

Sincerely,

H. J. Edgar Hoover

CT:DSS

✓

SENT FROM D. O.
TIME 11:30 AM
DATE 10-30-56
BY E. H.

Oct 30 1956 AM '56  
REC'D-READING ROOM  
F B I

Mr. Tolson	✓
Mr. Nichols	
Mr. Boardman	
Mr. Belmont	
Mr. Mohr	
Mr. Parsons	
Mr. Rosen	
Mr. Tamm	
Mr. Trotter	
Mr. Nease	
Mr. Room	
Mr. Holloman	
Mr. Gandy	

66 NOV 1 1956

STANDARD FORM NO. 64  
Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : Mr. Tolson

DATE: July 25, 1957

FROM : L. B. Nichols

SUBJECT:

By reference from the Director's office, Jimmy Durante telephoned at 11:45 a.m. this morning advising that he was leaving Washington today and didn't want to leave the city without paying his respects to the Director. He was advised that Mr. Hoover was out of the city and Durante stated that he suspected that he would be meeting him a little later on in the summer since he was returning to the Coast.

He asked that when the Director is in touch with the office that he be advised that Durante called just to say hello and that Durante expects to see him shortly at DelMar. Mr. Durante was asked if we could be of any help or service to him and he expressed appreciation advising that he would be leaving Washington today.

JJM:hpf  
(2)

RECORDED

Tolson  
Nichols  
Boardman  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Parsons  
Rosen  
Tamm  
Trotter  
Nease  
Tele. Room  
Holloman  
Gandy

INVESTIGATIVE DIVISION  
C. VEHICLE DIVISION

153/00  
32 AM 29  
TELETYPE DIVISION  
JUSTICE

1. R. 6126

153/00

Deleted information within this section is considered outside the scope of your request.

During 1968, John Alessio and C. Arnholt Smith began building a multimillion dollar development called San Luis Rey Downs located on a 2500 acre tract in northern San Diego County. This development includes an 85 acre race track described as a venture to develop and train horses. Members of the Executive Committee include C. Arnholt Smith, John Alessio, the jockey Willie Shoemaker, movie actor Dale Robertson, comedian Jimmy Durante, and movie actor Victor Mature.

ACTION:

This is for information in response to the Director's request.

## Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. TOLSON

DATE: December 31, 1952

FROM : S. J. Tracy

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR NAME CHECKS  
CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL

Tolson  
Ladd  
Nichols  
Belmont  
Clegg  
Glavin  
Harbo  
Reese  
Tracy  
Laughlin  
Mohr  
Winter  
Tele. R  
Holloway

I received a telephone call from Mr. Clarence Arata's office, of the Washington Board of Trade, advising that they had a list of names who were being considered for the entertainment committee at the Cherry Blossom Festival to be held next April. It is recalled that a similar request was made last year and several were found who were not acceptable to them. They would like very much to check the names again this year. Following are the names submitted to be checked:

✓ Arthur Godfrey	✓ Marguerite Piazza
✓ Edward Arnold	✓ John Wayne
✓ Donald O'Connor	✓ Phil Harris
✓ Jimmy Durante	✓ Alice Day
✓ June Allyson	✓ Parry Fitzgerald
✓ Mickey Rooney	✓ Raymond Massey
✓ Jack Benny	✓ Charles Laughton
✓ Peter Smith	✓ Orson Welles

Pertain  
to third  
parties  
and  
therefore  
outside  
scope  
of your  
desire

94-1 out 146

SJT: vde

1/1/53

RECORDED - 46  
INDEXED - 46

94-1-146-66X

1952

JWB

## Office Men . . . . . • UNITED GOVERNMENT

TO : MR. D. M. LADD

DATE: January 7, 1953

FROM : A. H. BELMONT

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR NAME CHECKS  
~~CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL~~

Reference is made to the attached memorandum from Mr. Tracy to Mr. Tolson, dated December 31, 1952, submitting a list of names of individuals prominent in the entertainment field being considered for the entertainment committee at the Cherry Blossom Festival to be held in April, 1953, which names were submitted by the Washington Board of Trade for a check of Bureau files.

The list of names has been checked against Bureau indices and it was determined that there are approximately 1155 references on these persons. In view of the large number of references involved and the fact that on some of the individuals rather extensive main files have to be reviewed, it will require some time to prepare the summary memoranda on these individuals. We will handle these as rapidly as possible consistent with the handling of the numerous other special memoranda requests which are constantly being received in the Special Memoranda Unit of the Liaison Section. In view of the above factors, however, it can be anticipated that these memoranda will not be completed for some time.

RECOMMENDATION:

None. This is for information.

DAI:lae  
94-14746

DT

1/10/53

6/11/53

RECORDED - 46  
INDEXED - 46

7-10-53

7-10-53

7-10-53

K

L

61X

Amo.

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
Ladd \_\_\_\_\_  
Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Clegg \_\_\_\_\_  
Glavin \_\_\_\_\_  
Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Laughlin \_\_\_\_\_  
Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Fitzgerald \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Rm. \_\_\_\_\_  
Holloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

The remaining names of the above list were checked against the Identification Division records with negative results.

RECOMMENDATION:

*It is recommended that a search be made of the Record Section to see if there is any information of public record which might be made available on a confidential basis to Mr. Arata.*

## FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION

1-121

Date 12-31-, 1952

<u>BUREAU</u>	<u>IDENTIFICATION DIVISION</u>
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Director, 5633	Mr. Tracy, 4130
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Tolson, 5744	Mr. Tamm, 4131
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Ladd, 5736	Mr. Anderson, 6207A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Nichols, 5640	Mr. Engert, 4207
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Clegg, 5256	Mr. Hodgens, 4128
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Glavin, 5517	Mr. Hottel, 6301
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Belmont, 1742	Mr. Creighton, 4133
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Harbo, 7625	Mr. Blase, 2208
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Rosen, 5706	Mrs. Colliflower, 5206
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Miss Gandy, 5633	Miss Dawson, 1310
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Holloman, 5633	Mr. Deiss, 6306
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Mohr, 5744	Miss LoMedico, 4126
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Callahan, 5517	Mr. Reid, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs. McNeely, 6207
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. H. L. Edwards	Mr. Nichols, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Page, 6302
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. McGuire, 5640	Mr. Belmont, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mr. Row, 6219
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Chief Clerk, 5517	Mr. Glavin, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Sisson, 1137A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Records Section 65	Mr. Harbo, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Correspondence, 4134
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Personnel Records	Mr. Elsen, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mail Room 1301A
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reading Room 5531	Mr. Tracy, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Messengers, 4101
 Room _____	Mr. Laughlin, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Tech., 3139
 Please File Special	Mr. Mohr, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Please Handle	Mr. Winterrowd, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Please Note and Return	Tele. Room, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Per Call	Mr. Holloman, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
 Please Initial	Miss Gandy, <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Mrs. Metcalf
<u>I recommend that the search be made and that I advise Clarence orally. I do not believe that any of the Identification Division data is pertinent to the purpose of his inquiry.</u>	
See Me, Please Please Call Me	

*gmp* S. Tracy, Ident Div., Bldg., Ext. 2233  
*gpm* *OK* *M* *1-3* *CH*

94-1-146-61X  
 ENCLOSURE

January 16, 1953

JIMMY DURANTE

The "Daily Worker," east coast Communist newspaper, issue dated December 29, 1943, reported that Jimmy Durante was among a group of entertainers who "readily agreed to perform" at the "Fund for Freedom" show which was sponsored by the Joint Anti-Fascist Refugee Committee and which was scheduled for the Imperial Theater, New York City, on December 26, 1943. (100-7061-A)

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DET:jmr

OP MM AB  
94-1-146-61X  
ENCLOSURE

Office of the Director

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

Mr. D. M. Ladd

DATE: January 16, 1953

FROM : A. H. Belmont

SUBJECT: JUNE ALLYSON  
 JIMMY DURANTE ✓  
 ALICE FAYE  
 BARRY FITZGERALD  
 PHIL HARRIS ✓  
 RAYMOND MASSEY  
 DONALD O'CONNOR  
 MARGUERITE PIAZZA  
 KATE SMITH  
 JOHN WAYNE ✓  
 CHERRY BLOSSOM FESTIVAL - NAME CHECKS  
 (WASHINGTON BOARD OF TRADE)

Tolson  
 Ladd  
 Glavin  
 Harbo  
 Rose  
 Tracy  
 Laughlin  
 Mohr  
 Tamm  
 Tele  
 Holloman  
 Gandy

SYNOPSIS:

To reply to a request of the Washington Board of Trade for derogatory public source information in Bureau files concerning captioned individuals. Search made; none subjects of FBI investigation. Public source derogatory information found only on Durante and [REDACTED]. No public source derogatory on other individuals. Recommendation: To advise Washington Board of Trade orally. Pertains to third party and

BACKGROUND:

Mr. Tracy's memorandum to Mr. Tolson dated December 31, 1952, recorded the request of Clarence Arata, Washington Board of Trade, for name checks on several individuals prominent in the entertainment field, including those above captioned. The individuals were being considered as entertainers as part of the program in the Cherry Blossom Festival to be held in Washington in April, 1953. The Director approved giving public source derogatory data.

DETAILS:

None of the captioned individuals was found to have been the subject of an investigation by the FBI.

PFD:ing  
 Attachments  
 4-1 Sub 146  
 8 13 1953

Pertains to third party and is therefore considered outside the scope of your request

Memo to Mr. D. H. Ladd  
from A. H. Belmont

Terry Durante

~~do~~ The name of this individual was searched on the  
nose and the following information, which is not suitable  
for dissemination, was found in Bureau files:

b1



Pertain to third  
party and  
therefore,  
considered  
outside scope  
of your  
request



b7D



There is attached a memorandum incorporating in-  
formation suitable for oral dissemination to Mr. Arata.

Pertain  
to third  
party and  
therefore,  
considered outside  
scope of your request



Memo to Mr. D. M. Ladd  
from A. H. Belmont

RECOMMENDATION:

That Mr. Clarence Arata, Washington Board of Trade, be orally furnished by Mr. Tracy the information in the attached memoranda on Jimmy Durante and [REDACTED] and that he be orally advised by Mr. Tracy that no pertinent derogatory public source information concerning the other eight captioned individuals could be located in FBI files.

Replies to this  
party and  
therefore  
considered  
outside B.O.  
of your  
request

g. a. l.

No. I don't think they  
are entitled to any  
information. No memo 1-26-57

X

# Walter Winchell

## of New York

### Man About Town

*Bandleader Sammy Kaye and Betty McAllister, the Chicago heiress to the Bell & Howell fortune, may duit during his Las Vegas booking...Joan Crawford is giving most of her time to rich Chip Squires...Margaret Whiting has lost her head over Dick Sargent...Zillionaire Huntington Hartford's list of favorites now includes model Connie Joyce, 19...Singer Ray (Glenn Miller crew) Eberle's daughter Nancy married J. Aylesworth Satdee. Both are Perry Como staffers...French consul Rene Millet's mate plans blaming Joan Fontaine for her heartache...JFK is expected to fill the first U.S. Court of Appeals vacancy with Federal Judge Irving Kaufman. He sent Red spies to the Sing Sing chair...Reconciliation tries by friends of the Dick Clarks failed again...Capital insiders fear that Chairman of the Chiefs of Staff Gen. Lemnitzer may be expendable. The Closed Door session on the Cuba mess cooked his medals...Castro will steal Hemingway's Cuba estate.*

*New York Democrats are having trouble raising campaign coin...U.S. Information Service correspondent Robert McClusky and Ann Phelan, press attache, were wed at the Pakistan Embassy Satdee...Showbiz insiders report that the renowned Waldorf's Empire Room may shutter except for private parties. A losing operation for years...Belgian artist Robert Helmoortel is really Seeing America. Has a swank Sutton Place apartment and a studio on the Bowery...Their friends can't figure out why playwright Gore Vidal declared war on N.Y. Times book critic Orville Prescott via Esquire's linotypes...The Mort Sahl versus Perry Como clash is another gasp-inducer. Fevvensakes!...McCall's confirms the danger of "staph" as noted here months ago...Latest disguise for Broadway procurers after midnight: They wear cap, dark specs and a N.Y. Times under a wing.*

*Lena Horne's son Theodore and Noble Sissle's dahter Cynthia are an attractive Romeo-and-Julietching...Geralyn Dusly, a dreamy Colleen, quit waitressing at the Hob Nob to wed shipping mint Dan Welch of New Orleans July 16th. They met two weeks ago...Plugility agent Temple Texas, former show-gel, becomes a bride soon. Her groom-to-be is J. Shribman, Rosemary Clooney's mgr...Chicago's Pat Dane reportedly has a find in singer Kim Elliott, who debuts at a new spot there on the 18th...Borden Stevenson (son of Adia) is squiring a blonde, beaut, whom he gallantly protects from nightclub fotogs...Jimmy Durante, whose home was robbed last week, is more hurt than burgled. He gives more than he takes...Roddy McDowell's cutie-fruitti at the Embers was Arlene Golonka of "Blow Your Horn"...Frank Costello's first fun (after the prison term) was at his dentist.*

*Melina Mercouri, "Never On Sunday" star, named by the wife of that hit's co-star and producer (J. Dassin) in her divorce suit filed June 30th—confirmed the colyum's April 3rd crystal ball...King Hussein is rated the world's poorest king because his income (salary) is about \$20,000 per annum plus expenses...Stork Club ducthing: Elaine Shepard, who is jotting down her adventures in the Congo and elsewhere (as a correspondent), and publisher George Little...The "Sound of Music" composer, Richard Rodgers, is this kind of capitalist: Even gives paid fortnight holidays to performers with the hit less than a year...The John Tolands are in the midwest researching their tome about John Dillinger. His new novel "Net In Shambles" arrives Oct. 23rd...The Russian Embassy ordered a complete clipping service on the John Birch Society. They call it "another Hitler movement."*

Tolson  
Belmont  
Mohr  
Callahan  
Conrad  
DeLoach  
Evans  
Malone  
Rosen  
Sullivan  
Tavel  
Trotter  
Tele Room  
Ingram  
Gandy

The Washington Post and Times Herald  
The Washington Daily News  
The Evening Star  
New York Herald Tribune  
New York Journal-American  
New York Mirror  
New York Daily News  
New York Post  
The New York Times  
The Worker  
The New Leader  
The Wall Street Journal  
Date

NOTICE OF PUBLICATION, 1961  
170 JUL 19 1961

66 JUL 24 1961

The Carmen Capalbos (he's the producer-director of "Three-penny Opera") finally had it Mexican cancelled. He will next wed Phyllis Kirk...Mary Martin's new musical will star Irving Berlin's music...It's a girl for the Alan Courtneys at Lying-In Hosp...And for the Jose Martins. He juggles those firebrands in "Carnival"...They say lark Peggy King plans another marriage, but not to anyone mentioned with her in the colms. And not in showbiz...Tv star Hugh O'Brian invests his coin in a refrigerator firm for mortuaries...The Roney-Plaza's sportsmen are wagering that England's Arlette Dobins makes Win, Place or Show in the "Miss Universe" race...The Lido Hotel owner reports a new game called Southampton Roulette: Six men are locked in a cabana. The one who tries to borrow money from the other five is the phony playboy.

Ohio Gov. DeSalle's dgltr. Barbara weds J. Lindskold of the Dept of Interior on the 22nd...The Urbanite, a slick-paper Negro culture mag, folded after 3 issues...Medical scientists expect to isolate the Hepatitis virus soon via a new vaccine...The Runyon Cancer Fund received its 741st bequest. The fund gets most of its support from people who remember it in their wills. Knowing we never deduct a penny for expenses from the donor's dollar...Crystal Room co-owner Jay Lawrence says his marriage with songbird Claire Hogan was such a quickie "our lawyers fought over custody of the wedding cake!"...Adolphe Menjou's medics told him to slow down...Add Don't Invites: Diana Dors and Juliette Greco. The feud started in Chile...Sign of the Times: Bank empezzlements are up 30 p.c. over 1960...Cue mag staffers use this code when they thirst for a Martini: "Let's go have some funch."

B. Bardot's former beaufriend Jacques Charrier and French authoress Marie Lecotin are lifting eyebrows at Cannes. She's 55...Actress Dolores Michaels and Argentine actor Alajandro Ray, who were lovers in a recent 20th film, act as though they didn't know the movie was completed...Jesse Chandler, an Ohio millionaire, will win \$60,000 if Cincinnati cops the flag. A Cincy bookie will probly kill himself. He gave 60 to 1...The Arizona Kitty Kat, one of the most popular and spirited of campus humor mags, folded with last month's number...Though the book biz is booming, scads of book shops are in bankruptcy. Blame it on cut-rate mail and book clubs undercutting book stores...Helen Hayes wants to resign from the State Dept. So. American tour to stay here and play with her grandtot...Word for "sick" comics: Scenterainevs.

Lionel Hampton's song star Bertice Reading was knocked unconscious while jitterbugging with him after they fell...Out of action for six weeks or so...Broadway's entire theater area will be 2 1/4 times brighter within a year. New hyped-up arc lamps, etc...Wm. Lane Baker, 23, of the Locust Valley social register, hide-a-woos at the Crystal Room nightly with the gorgeous abdominal dancer (a Lebanese lulu) whose name is Elinor Stefan...The Duke and Duchess of Kent's honeymoon must be scads of fun. Their home on the Isle of Majorca is also the rendezvous for zillions of ants...Don't invite the Harlem Swish called "Broadway Rose," who's as mean as all get-out. They say he's the best street-fighter in town. Battles two at a time and wins...You know, of course, that Joan Tyler named George Jessel in her paternity suit for a good reason. With all the divorces and deaths—Hollywood needs a laugh.

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: July 13, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BURGLARY OF THE RESIDENCE OF  
JIMMY F. DURANTE, HOLLYWOOD, CALIFORNIA

P  
R  
2/M  
Cute. /

Tolson	_____
Belmont	_____
Mohr	_____
Callahan	_____
Conrad	_____
DeLoach	✓
Evans	_____
Malone	_____
Rosen	_____
Sullivan	_____
Tavel	_____
Trotter	_____
Tele. Room	_____
Ingram	_____
Gandy	_____

This is to advise that three Los Angeles Negroes have been arrested and a portion of the loot recovered by the local police at Los Angeles, California, for the burglary of actor Jimmy Durante's home.

The burglary of Durante's home took place between July 2 and 3, 1961, in Hollywood, California, and approximately \$28,000 worth of jewelry and cash was taken. The house was ransacked and considerable damage done during the course of the burglary.

In addition to the property recovered at the time of arrest, it has been reported that the remainder of the stolen property is stored in Los Angeles and has not been removed from the State of California.

WBW:ige  
(6)

✓ W 11/13 B  
REC-23

1961 JUL 18 1961

66 JUL 24 1961

UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

## Memorandum

TO : Mr. Belmont

DATE: July 11, 1961

FROM : A. Rosen

SUBJECT: BURGLARY OF THE RESIDENCE OF  
ACTOR JIMMY DURANTE

Tolson \_\_\_\_\_  
 Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mohr \_\_\_\_\_  
 Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
 DeLoach \_\_\_\_\_  
 Evans \_\_\_\_\_  
 Malone \_\_\_\_\_  
 Rosen  ✓  
 Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
 Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
 Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
 Ingram \_\_\_\_\_  
 Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

b7c

With reference to the comment in Walter Winchell's column of 7/10/61, this is to advise that active investigation has been undertaken by our Los Angeles Office.

The residence of Jimmy Durante was burglarized on the night of 7/2-3/61 in Hollywood, California. The amount of the property stolen has now been valued at \$28,000 and includes in particular a lady's diamond star sapphire 35 carats worth \$4,000 and a diamond necklace containing several hundred small diamonds valued at \$3,200. In addition, \$800 in cash, as well as a quantity of men's jewelry, was taken.

Active investigation was immediately instituted by our Los Angeles Office and the crime scene search failed to reveal any fingerprints, leading to the belief that the burglar wore gloves. No tool marks at the point of entrance were found.

A neighborhood investigation was negative with the exception that the mother of Keeley Smith, wife of bandleader Louis Prima, advised that she had heard someone on the night of the burglary try her door; however, inasmuch as there was a party in the neighborhood, she thought nothing further of it.

[REDACTED]

b7c

Agents, Los Angeles, today will show photographs of [REDACTED] to Jimmy Durante to see if he is acquainted with the [REDACTED] suspects.

Informants of the Los Angeles Office have been alerted and active investigation is under way to locate the suspects in this case.

WBW:ige

(6)

66 JUL 24 1961

## 2 Convicted in Durante Theft Case

Two men accused of receiving \$30,000 in furs, jewelry and other valuables stolen from the home of comedian Jimmy Durante were found guilty Wednesday by Superior Judge Alfred P. Peraccia.

The judge, in the court trial set Feb. 8 as the sentencing date for Charles L. Pendergraph, 26, of 1430 W. 36th Pl., and Roscoe C. Porter, 35, of 2235 W. 26th Pl. B. APPROX. 3. APPROX.

The defendants testified they did not know the property had been stolen when they bought it. The burglary occurred on July 2.

Mr. Tolson	_____
Mr. Belmont	_____
Mr. Mohr	_____
Mr. Callahan	_____
Mr. Conrad	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Mr. Evans	_____
Mr. Glavin	_____
Mr. Rosen	_____
Mr. Sullivan	_____
Mr. Tavel	_____
Mr. Trotter	_____
Tel. Room	_____
Mr. Felt	_____
Miss Gandy	_____
_____	
_____	

Los Angeles Times

Date 1-11-62

Los Angeles Division

Editor: NICK B. WILLIAMS

RE:

LA file \_\_\_\_\_

Bufile \_\_\_\_\_

EX-103

REC-91

NOT RECORDED  
13 JAN 17 1962

63 JAN 22 1962

BEST COPY AVAILABLE



*Entertainment Industry Tribute*  
**JIMMY DURANTE**

**Chairman**  
**HARRY E. GOULD**  
**Coordinating Committee**  
**HARRY BRANDT**  
**Chairman**  
**EMIL FRIEDLANDER**  
**ABE LASTFOGEL**  
**NAT LEFKOWITZ**  
**Executive Coordinator**  
**MORTON SUNSHINE**

January 14, 1957

Honorable J. Edgar Hoover  
Federal Bureau of Investigation  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On Sunday evening, March 17th, at the Waldorf-Astoria, the entire entertainment industry is joining together in honor of a great performer, beloved by all of show business and the public -- Jimmy Durante.

Jimmy Durante is being honored not only for his contributions to the entertainment industry but for his activities and contributions to charity and public service. For more than four decades, he has freely given of himself to all humanitarian and civic causes and to patriotic endeavors in behalf of the war effort. In all ways, he symbolizes the great heart of show business.

We would consider it a rare privilege if you would accept our invitation to grace the dais and participate in the narration to highlight the great work of radio, TV, motion pictures and its performers.

Beneficiaries of the dinner, sponsored by the Jewish Theatrical Guild, are the Welfare Funds of the American Guild of Variety Artists and the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, the Actors Fund, Catholic Actors Guild, Episcopal Actors Guild, Will Rogers Hospital, Motion Picture Relief Fund and the Yiddish Theatrical Alliance.

The Committee anxiously awaits your reply.

Respectfully yours,

RECORDED - 62

Harry E. Gould  
Chairman



JEWISH THEATRICAL GUILD OF AMERICA

165 WEST 46th STREET

NEW YORK 36, N. Y.

RECORDED - 2  
INDEXED - 62

January 18, 1957

Mr. Harry E. Gould  
Chairman  
Entertainment Industry Tribute  
to Jimmy Durante  
The Jewish Theatrical Guild of America  
1560 Broadway  
New York 36, New York

Dear Mr. Gould:

Many thanks for your thoughtful letter  
of January 14, 1957, inviting me to participate in the  
outstanding tribute you have arranged in honor of  
Jimmy Durante on March 17 at the Waldorf-Astoria.

You may be sure it would indeed be a  
privilege to attend this celebration, and I deeply regret  
to advise that a previously scheduled commitment will  
deny me this pleasure. You have my very best wishes  
for a most enjoyable and successful evening.

Sincerely yours,

T. Erwin Hovey

NOTE: Bufiles reflect nothing identifiable with Gould.  
By letter 12-14-56 to Harry Brandt, Director agreed to  
be a member of the Honorary Committee for this  
celebration.

JRH:af  
(4)

Elson \_\_\_\_\_  
Chols \_\_\_\_\_  
Boardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Belmont \_\_\_\_\_  
Fason \_\_\_\_\_  
Fohr \_\_\_\_\_  
Parsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Osen \_\_\_\_\_  
Amm \_\_\_\_\_  
Easie \_\_\_\_\_  
Interrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Olloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Landy \_\_\_\_\_



## Entertainment Industry Tribute

### JIMMY DURANTE

Mr. Tol...  
Mr. N...  
Mr. Bon...  
Mr. Bon...  
Mr. Me...  
Mr. Pa...  
Mr. Re...  
Mr. Th...  
Mr. Te...  
Mr. Ne...  
Tele. Re...  
Mr. H...  
Miss G...

Chairman  
**HARRY E. GOULD**  
Coordinating Committee  
**HARRY BRANDT**  
Chairman  
**EMIL FRIEDLANDER**  
**ABE LASTFOGEL**  
**NAT LEFKOWITZ**  
Executive Coordinator  
**MORTON SUNSHINE**

Honorary Committee  
(In Formation)  
**STEVE ALLEN**  
**HARRY C. ARTHUR, JR.**  
**RALPH BELLAMY**  
**ROBERT S. BENJAMIN**  
**JACK BENNY**  
**CHARLIE BERNIS**  
**RAY BOLGER**  
**CHARLES BRACKETT**  
**HARRY BRANDT**  
**GENE BUCK**  
**DR. RALPH BUNCHE**  
**RABBI ABRAHAM BURSTEIN**  
**IRVING CAESAR**  
**EDDIE CANTOR**  
**HOAGY CARMICHAEL**  
**ROBERT K. CHRISTENBERRY**  
**BOBBY CLARK**  
**WILBUR CLARK**  
**NAT KING COLE**  
**FRED J. COOTS**  
**PAUL CUNNINGHAM**  
**ALFRED E. DAFF**  
**PAUL D'AMATO**  
**HARRY DELL**  
**GEORGE F. DEMBOW**  
**WALT DISNEY**  
**MORTON DOWNEY**  
**RUSSELL V. DOWNEY**  
**VERNON DUKE**  
**SIMON H. FABIAN**  
**FRANK FARRELL**  
**DAVE FERGUSON**  
**BENNY FIELDS**  
**ARTHUR FREED**  
**VINTON FREEDLEY**  
**Y. FRANK FREEMAN**  
**EMIL FRIEDLANDER**  
**LEOPOLD FRIEDMAN**  
**IRVING GEIST**  
**WILLIAM J. GERMAN**  
**JUDY GARLAND**  
**L. WOLFE GILBERT**  
**LEONARD H. GOLDENSON**  
**MAX GORDON**  
**HARRY E. GOULD**  
**ABEL GREEN**  
**JENNIE GROSSINGER**  
**DAVID HALPER**  
**OSCAR HAMMERSTEIN, II**  
**DON HARTMAN**  
**CARL HAVERLIN**  
**BEN HECHT**  
**MARCUS HEIMAN**  
**CONRAD N. HILTON**  
**EDDIE JACKSON**  
**A. A. JALLER**  
**GEORGE JESSEL**  
**L. W. KANAGA**  
**HENRY M. KATZ**

Dear Mr. Hoover:

On Sunday evening, March 17, 1957, at the Waldorf-Astoria, the Jewish Theatrical Guild is sponsoring an "entertainment Industry Tribute to Jimmy Durante." Jimmy has not only earned the admiration of everyone in show business but has won the hearts of people everywhere -- and this nation-wide tribute will reflect our affection for him.

In addition, the following theatrical charities will share in the proceeds: The Actors Fund, Catholic Actors Guild, Negro Actors Guild, Episcopal Actors Guild, Will Rogers Memorial Hospital, Motion Picture Relief Fund and the AGVA Welfare Fund.

We would like to include you on the Honorary Committee together with other outstanding names interested in the event and the worthiness of the cause. The law requires your express written consent before we may list your name on our invitations, letterheads, etc. We would therefore appreciate your signing the statement on the enclosed card and becoming part of this great show business event.

RECORDED-16  
INDEXED-16

Cordially yours,

SE-32

Harry Brandt

Harry E. Gould

Eddie Cantor

NOTE:

RECORDED-16  
INDEXED-16

December 14, 1956

Mr. Harry Brandt  
Chairman  
Coordinating Committee  
Entertainment Industry Tribute  
to Jimmy Durante  
The Jewish Theatrical Guild of America  
1560 Broadway  
New York 36, New York

Dear Mr. Brandt:

I received your letter, with enclosure, on December 7, 1956, and I am very pleased to accept your generous invitation to be a member of the Honorary Committee of the Entertainment Industry Tribute to Jimmy Durante.

Sincerely yours,

NOTE: Bufiles reflect limited cordial correspondence with Brandt. There is nothing derogatory in our records concerning The Jewish Theatrical Guild of America, and the Director has been included on the Honorary Committee for other such events.

Wilson \_\_\_\_\_  
Wolfs \_\_\_\_\_  
Wardman \_\_\_\_\_  
Montson \_\_\_\_\_  
Sohn \_\_\_\_\_  
Schr \_\_\_\_\_  
Wsons \_\_\_\_\_  
Sen \_\_\_\_\_  
Lamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Lease \_\_\_\_\_  
Interrowd \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Golloman \_\_\_\_\_  
Andy \_\_\_\_\_

JRH:pwl

(4)

67 FEB 13 1957

1956 10 29 1956

2 2 7

RECORDED-16 INDEXED-16

SENT TO THE  
DIRECTOR  
FOR SIGNATURE  
AND MAILING

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI (62-9-29)  
FROM : *W. J. G.* SAC, MIAMI (92-882)(P)  
SUBJECT: INTERVIEW PROGRAM  
          CRIMINAL INTELLIGENCE MATTERS

DATE: 3/9/63

Re Miami airtel to the Bureau dated 2/5/63.

Re Miami airtel to the Bureau dated 2/5/63.

Pertains to Third Parties and is therefore considered outside the scope of your request.

K

② - Bureau 2/10/78 copies made  
2 - Miami JSE/dlp REC 13  
AWC:bam for review at FBIHQ by  
(4) HSCA 12/22/77 rec  
Re Miami FBI Janey  
115 West 45th St 62-117290 EX-102

62-9-29-637

8 MAR 11 1963

53 MAR 13 1963 43

MM 92-882

parties to a high  
party and is therefore  
considered outside the  
scope of your Report.

116  
was in some measure instrumental in bringing  
JIMMY DURANTE and PETER LAWFORD to the Deauville Hotel for  
their recent engagement in the Casanova Room.

FLA

AIRTEL

F B I

Date: 6/6/58 *REG 21* *P2*

Transmit the following in **PLAIN TEXT**

(Type in plain text or code)

Via **AIRTEL**

**AIRMAIL**

(Priority or Method of Mailing)

TO : DIRECTOR, FBI  
FROM : SAC, LOS ANGELES (94-558)  
SUBJECT: **CRIMDEL** - CRS

MEYER HARRIS COHEN,  
was. Mickey  
ANTI-RACKETEERING  
OO: Los Angeles  
LA 92-106

Pertains to a third  
party and is therefore  
considered outside the scope of  
your agency

3 Bureau  
2 - Los Angeles

WEO:cey  
(5)

cc: S. Wick

cc: E.C.

REG 21 63-4296-36-124

3 JUN 9 1958

AIRTEL

Approved:

Special Agent in Charge

JUN 17 1958

*7-11-2*  
CENTRAL RESEARCH

M Per

CRIMDEL (94-558)  
6/6/58

Refers to third parties and is  
therefore, considered outside the  
scope of your request.

During the cross examination of COHEN, USA WATERS attempted to bring out COHEN's sources of income. COHEN stated that he lived on loans from friends and upon instruction of the court, named several of his generous benefactors. Among the better known sources named by MICKEY who had lent him a total of about \$138,000 since his release from prison in 1955 were:

*Calif.*  
~~CLINTON MITCHELL and JIM VAUS~~ of the BILLY GRAHAM evangelical organization who contributed \$14,000. VAUS is now an independent evangelist, but was formerly an independent wire tap artist who was involved in the famous BRENDA ALLEN scandal at Los Angeles in 1949 which led to a major shake up in the Los Angeles Police Department. VAUS, an ex-convict, was converted by BILLY GRAHAM in 1949. He is scheduled to appear with BILLY GRAHAM soon at the San Francisco Cow Palace.

*Calif.*  
~~Others named by COHEN were: Comedian JIMMY DURANTE, \$500.00; ELLIS "ITCHY" MANDEL, \$2,000; Chicago Attorney GEORGE BIEBER, \$22,500.00; and less well known friends whose identities will be reported.~~

*Calif.*

III.

Bureau will be kept advised of further developments.

# FAIR ENOUGH

JOHN EDGAR HOOVER, the director of the FBI, joined Gov. Warren and Sen. Downey, of California, a few days ago in their discovery of a new underworld in the amusement industry.

On this special phase of the new problem of criminality in the entertainment trades, Mr. Hoover delivered some remarks to a class of 500 of his G-men at the Department of Justice in Washington.

"Glaring headlines announced the assassination of Bugsy Siegel, but circumstances surrounding his career in crime tell the story better than words," said he.

"Here was an individual whose life was a constant challenge to common decency. Yet he and his criminal scum were lionized and their favors sought after in so-called respectable circles."

Mr. H. was referring here to an account of a cocktail party by the Eddie Cantors soon after Siegel was shot dead in the presence of another socially distinguished Hollywood racketeer known as Allen Smiley, which is an alias for Aaron Smehoff and Abraham Smickoff, originally of Beliza, Russia.

CANTOR had blown some kisses after the dead gorilla and Jimmy Durante, an old-time speakeasy player himself, saluted Siegel's memory kindly. Then, too, Hoover remembered that Siegel had been a cordial friend of an American woman of wealth who married an Italian and became, for some years, a sort of rhinestone Mrs. Astor of the Hollywood glamour set, under the title of the Countess Dorothy di Prasso.

She mourned Siegel's passing by phone from Italy and the morgue envelopes showed that the Countess Dorothy until a few years ago was the head of the *haute monde* and the *bon ton* of the Hollywood have-another-hod-of-caviar set.

"The glamour that surrounded his life in all its vile implications was shockingly disgusting," said John Edgar, still going on about Bugsy, "but Siegel was a symbol. He fronted for more sinister and disreputable characters, the untouchables who hire mercenaries to do their work."

He fronted for Frank Costello, Willie Moretti, and Joe Adonis, of the Jersey criminal scum. There is a continuing, widening web of association among these people. In Arizona last winter, an old-time Leavenworth convict with a brutal record turned up socially with some of the old Roosevelt New Deal White House set. This is one of the manifestations that Hoover means when he twangs the note about the lionizing of criminal scum by "so-called respectable social circles."

NOW let us consider a little night-side paper published in Hollywood called "Hollywood Nite Life. Movies. Radio. Nite Clubs. Sports. Music."

The masthead names Jimmy Tarantino as the "Editor and Publisher." Tarantino is a swine and hustler who used to hang around Jacobs' Beach, a stretch near Madison Square Garden where the fighters, managers, and racketeers gather. He has a cheap police record in Newark and he has been a friend and protege of Frank Sinatra.

George Evans, Sinatra's press agent and man-

*WASHINGTTON HERALD*  
By WESTBROOK PEGLER

ager, has been jumpy lately. They overdid their publicity. The Pied Piper theme about the hungry-looking little ragamuffin with the hollow cheeks and the innocent stare, leading millions of American young girls—just children—into insensate street commotions and "liberal" or "anti-Fascist" political riots was badly overdone.

People got inquisitive and inquired what sort of fellow this really was who was going to influence their young ones. They found out. One arrest on a seduction charge that washed out.

Not too bad, but no recommendation for a youth leader, especially of girls. Then Evans said the complainant seduced Sinatra and was arrested for annoying him.

Not often is the female of the species accused of deflowering an innocent young male road-house crooner, which was Sinatra's job at that time.

But it could happen in Sinatra's neighborhood in New Jersey where his tough underworld friends live. Another arrest followed for drawing a bead on a man who wasn't looking and slugging him with a sneak punch. Then Sinatra hollered "tolerance," which is coming to rival patriotism as the last refuge of the scoundrel.

HE thought he had better not risk a trial on that charge. The conviction for slugging would have been bad enough, but the evidence that would have gone into the permanent record would have been no boost for a leader of American youth. So Sinatra paid off instead. Police record: two arrests.

EVANS says Sinatra brushed Tarantino long ago. Never did have anything to do with him, really. Just one of those punks who try to latch onto a successful fellow.

But, on Feb. 4, 1946, Sinatra's name was signed first to a telegram to Fred Howser, the prosecuting attorney of Los Angeles county, demanding big police protection for Tarantino and his wife and child who had been "threatened and harassed by political gangsters."

There was a queer report that Mrs. Tarantino and the baby child had been kidnaped. This investigation did not confirm this but it did lead to interesting information about Tarantino. Sinatra assumed great importance in the telegram to Howser. He himself had called the meeting of a "citizens' committee."

MR. HOWSER is now the attorney general of the State in charge of several serious investigations of underworld activity in connection with the amusement business, ordered by Gov. Warren. In this work he can exchange information with the FBI, the bureau of narcotics, and many police departments.

Evans specifically said Sinatra did not finance Tarantino's paper.

One appropriate selection from Tarantino's own essays is entitled "A Week End At the Flamingo."

This is two columns of ecstatic publicity about the gangster's trap at Las Vegas and personal admiration of "Mr. Benjamin Siegel, a handsomely groomed, tall, handsome, tanned, and smiling gent," who J. Edgar Hoover called "a challenge to human decency."

(Copyright, 1947, by King Features Syndicate, Inc.)

Mr. Nichols \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Tracy \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Carson \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Egan \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Gurnea \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Harbo \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Hendon \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Jones \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Leonard \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Pennington \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Quinn Tamm \_\_\_\_\_  
Mr. Nease \_\_\_\_\_  
Miss Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

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WASHINGTON TIMES HERALD

DATE 10-3-47

FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION  
COMMUNICATIONS SECTION

SEP 30 1971 *tele*

NR 015 LA PLAIN

650PM URGENT 9-30-71 GLD

TO DIRECTOR

FROM ASSISTANT DIRECTOR J.J. CASPER (SP)

*Police Association*  
RE: INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF CHIEFS OF POLICE, SEVENTY

EIGHTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE, ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA, SEPTEMBER THIRTY

INSTANT.

Mr. Bates

*Brooks 8/1*

ANNUAL BANQUET

ANNUAL BANQUET OF IACP CONFERENCE HELD EVENING OF  
SEPTEMBER TWENTY NINE LAST DESCRIBED AS THE LARGEST ATTENDANCE  
AT ANNUAL BANQUET IN HISTORY OF ORGANIZATION DUE PRIMARILY  
TO ENTERTAINMENT OFFERED BY DANNY THOMAS AND JIMMY DURANTE.

*Chif*  
Does not pertain  
to subject, and  
is therefore  
consequently  
outside scope  
of request.

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18 OCT 1971

*FBI*  
57 OCT 13 1971

MR. DIRECTOR FOR THE DIRECTOR

*RECORDED*

United States Department of Justice

Los Angeles, California  
August 31, 1943

Director, FBI

ATTENTION: MR. L. B. NICHOLS

RE: JIMMY DURANTE PROGRAM

Mr. Ladd	✓
Mr. Nichols	✓
Mr. Rees	✓
Mr. Tracy	✓
Mr. Acer	✓
Mr. Carson	✓
Mr. Henden	✓
Mr. Mumford	✓
Mr. Clarke	✓
Mr. Quinn Tamm	✓
Mr. Nease	✓
Miss Gandy	✓

Dear Sir:

On August 25, 1943, DON HOWRATH of the Continuity Department of the National Broadcasting Company, telephonically advised me that on the Camel Cigarette Program each week, JIMMY DURANTE has someone of prominence at whom he takes a great many punches and gags, and that on the program during that week he was going to use the Director and the FBI.

He was advised that in view of such a program, I could not furnish him with any statement concerning the script, but he should have his Washington representative immediately get in touch with Mr. L. B. NICHOLS of the Bureau. It was pointed out that in view of the nature of the program, this action should be taken promptly.

He communicated with me again by telephone on August 26th and stated that he had deleted all mention of the FBI and of the Director and instead he was using the Secret Service and he wanted to know if I objected to this. I informed him that the Secret Service would have to speak for itself, and that that agency is in the Treasury Department and handled counterfeiting matters and the protection of the President, and did not make investigations into the same field as does the FBI. He stated he would immediately get in touch with the Secret Service about this matter.

I asked him if his contact in Washington had gotten in touch with the Bureau and he said it was not necessary since they had deleted all mention of the Bureau.

Very truly yours,

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29 SEP 11 1943

R. B. HOOD, SAC.

CIF



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SEP 17 1943

Op. 7

TO : Mr. DeLoach *deLoach*  
FROM : J. H. Gale *J. H. Gale*  
SUBJECT: C. ARNHOLT SMITH  
INFORMATION CONCERNING

DATE: 5/23/69

Casper \_\_\_\_\_  
Callahan \_\_\_\_\_  
Conrad \_\_\_\_\_  
Felt \_\_\_\_\_  
Gale \_\_\_\_\_  
Rosen \_\_\_\_\_  
Sullivan \_\_\_\_\_  
Tavel \_\_\_\_\_  
Trotter \_\_\_\_\_  
Tele. Room \_\_\_\_\_  
Holmes \_\_\_\_\_  
Gandy \_\_\_\_\_

*Staffeld*  
*Leggett*

*Babcock*

Deleted information pertains to a case being  
and is considered outside the scope of your  
request.

- 1 - Mr. DeLoach
- 1 - Mr. Bishop
- 1 - Mr. Gale
- 1 - Mr. Staffeld
- 1 - Mr. Leggett

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EX 104

JUL 29 1969

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COPY SENT TO MR. TOLSON

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